

REMARKS

Claim 8 has been amended and new Claims 9-12 have been added. Claims 8-12 remain pending in this application.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-6 under Section 102(e)

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under Section 102 as being unpatentable over Bruggenolte. This rejection is moot in light of the cancellation of Claim 1-6.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 7 has been indicated as having allowable subject matter therein and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The limitations of allowable Claim 7 and its independent Claim 6 were already redrafted as Claim 8 in the previous amendment thereby obviating the need to re-draft Claim 7 again herein. Claim 8 has been allowed. It should be noted that minor amendments have been made to Claim 8 to make it more clear.

III. New Claims

New Claims 9-12 have been presented that are dependent on now allowable Claim 8. Applicant submits that Claims 9-12 are also allowable over the cited prior art.

IV. Conclusion

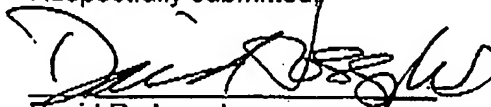
Applicant submits that Claims 8-12, as amended, are allowable over the cited prior art. In view of the above, Applicants submit that pending Claims 8-12 are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejection is requested. Allowance of Claims 8-12 at an early date is solicited.

If an extension of time is required for timely submission of this response, Applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time and the Office is authorized to charge Deposit Account 02-0900 for the appropriate additional fees in connection with the filing of this response.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned should any questions arise.

Dated: 7/1/2004

Respectfully submitted,



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